GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2093
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2017
Equal Opportunities Commission
Ajmal Shri Sirajuddin

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any decision to set up Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasonS therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure equal opportunities for all the communities in the country as on date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (c): In pursuance of one of the recommendations made by the High-Level Committee set up under the chairmanship of Justice (Retd.) Rajinder Sachar, popularly known as Sachar Committee, the Government had set up an Expert Group to examine and determine, inter alia, the structure and functions of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) to address the grievances of deprived groups. Based on the Expert Group Report and examination by the Government, the draft EOC Bill has been re-circulated for inter-ministerial consultations as per laid down procedure.

To enable the minorities to avail opportunities in development process of the country, the Ministry of Minority Affairs is already implementing various welfare and development schemes/programmes and has taken initiatives for educational empowerment, infrastructure development, skill development, economic empowerment, women empowerment and also to meet the special needs of the communities. Moreover, under Prime Minister's 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities (PM's New 15-PP), 24 schemes/programmes of 11 Ministries/Departments including 7 exclusive schemes of this Ministry are covered. Details of the schemes / programmes / initiatives taken up by the Ministry of Minority Affairs exclusively for minorities, and various schemes of other Central Ministries / Departments under PM's New 15-PP and Sachar Committee recommendations is available on the website of the Ministry, www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.

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